

# Facts & Figures

## Medicaid Expansion & Cancer in Idaho



**For the 11,820 Idahoans who will be diagnosed with cancer this year, having access to affordable, quality healthcare will be crucial.** Currently, 94,500 people are enrolled in Medicaid expansion and are able to access the health care coverage and get the preventative care, screenings, and treatments they need.

### Medicaid Expansion Works for Idaho

**\$26M**

**145,000+**

**79%**

**Annual savings to the state budget**

**Idahoans accessing health care coverage**

**Enrollees who have reportable income**

Idaho lawmakers can demonstrate their commitment to the health of their constituents and to our local economies by protecting Medicaid expansion without adding burdensome red tape such as work requirements and other barriers to cancer care.

"We know the health insurance coverage provided by Medicaid helps to improve outcomes and reduce the burden of cancer by offering enrollees access to primary care, prevention services and timely cancer screenings."

- Lisa Lacasse, president of ACS CAN

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After Idaho voters decisively supported Medicaid expansion, the program was implemented in 2020 just before the start of the COVID-19 pandemic and provided Idahoans the peace of mind that comes with knowing you can see a doctor when you need one. Without expansion, costs to caring for the uninsured would have fallen to the counties, state, and providers. Having Medicaid has been a good financial decision for the taxpayers of Idaho, resulting in:

- Individual health insurance rates decreased by 4% on average in 2023
- Idaho's state Medicaid budget growth from 2019–2022 was well below the national average at 4.33% vs. 7.44%
- Hospital savings of \$42M on charity care, and \$61M less on bad debt from 2019–2021
- \$78M in state budget savings on health care costs in the criminal justice system, behavioral health, and public health departments

**“Medicaid gave me the best chance of survival. And that allows me to have a second chance at life.”**

Patrick, Pocatello

Two-time cancer survivor

Medicaid expansion has brought numerous benefits to the people of Idaho, including:

- Access to mental health services for the 24% of enrollees with a serious mental illness diagnosis
- Thousands of visits to primary care providers for preventative care, reducing costly hospitalizations
- Earlier cancer diagnoses for Idahoans ages 20–64 covered by Medicaid or uninsured, offering the best chance for a positive outcome